

~~TOP SECRET CANOE~~

FAR EAST

5. North Korean V Corps has larger east coast defense role:
In a 20 July message a North Korean security officer, perhaps with the I Corps south of Wonsan, reported that a coastal security unit, possibly of naval subordination, "has become attached to the V Corps."

Farther to the north, Pang Ho-san, the V Corps commander and east coast defense commander, ordered the newly-activated 22nd Brigade on 15 July to move to an area northwest of Tanchon between Hamhung and Songjin. (CANOE ROK Int Grp M Korea, SK-L-576, 23 July; ASAPAC Japan Spot 3687 A, 23 July 52)

Comment: If the V Corps is taking over naval coastal security positions in the area south of Wonsan and deploying subordinate units northeast of Hamhung, it is possible that an expanded V Corps is solely responsible for east coast security.

Previously the VII Corps was responsible for the Wonsan area, the I Corps for the area south of Wonsan, and the V Corps for the Kowon-Hamhung area. Naval units filled in the gaps and were responsible for the northeastern Songjin-Chongjin area.

6. Manpower shortage indicated in North Korean armored unit:
The North Korean Armored Forces Headquarters in a 21 July message to an unknown training regiment complained about the calibre of men being sent to headquarters. The originator stated that "60 percent of the 40 men per day are the men who are going to be discharged from the service and the others are only good for working in the rear area." (CANOE 501st Comm Recon Co Korea, 15RSM/780, 22 July 52)

Comment: Manpower shortages such as indicated in this message probably hinder all North Korean military units.

7. Large number of Soviet MIG's at Manchurian airfield:
Chinese Communist messages scheduled 114 "allied" (Soviet) MIG-15's in three groups of 38 each on training flights at Anshan, 100 miles northwest of Antung, on 24 July. (CANOE 6920 Security Group Johnson AB Japan, AP-088, 23 July 52)

~~TOP SECRET CANOE~~

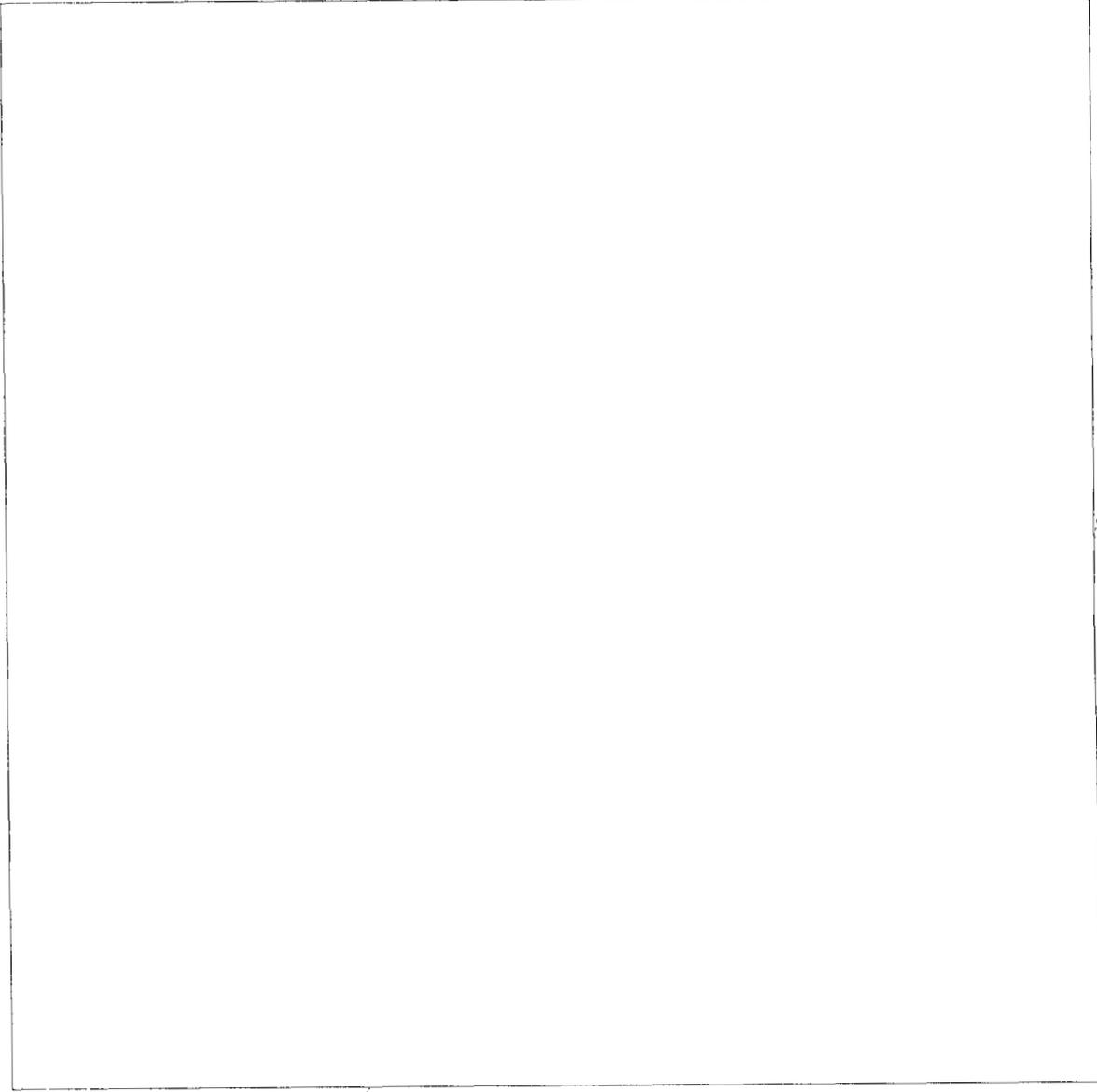
25 July 52

CID
SI Supp

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: 18-Mar-2010

~~TOP SECRET CANOE~~

Comment: This is the largest number of Russian jets noted at Anshan; it is equivalent to a Soviet jet division of three regiments at full strength. As yet there is no evidence that any of these aircraft were recently transferred from the USSR. Soviet jet strength in Manchuria has been 320 planes in nine units of regimental size.



NR

~~TOP SECRET CANOE~~ ⁴ 25 July 52